XYLETINUS LATREILLE, 1809, AND *LASIODERMA* STEPHENS, 1835 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA: ANOBIIDAE): PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS TO AVOID SYNONYMY. Z.N.(S.) 1871

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This application is being submitted to have the Commission fix the type-species of *Xyletinus* and to thereby remove *Lasioderma* from its synonymy. This action will serve to maintain the present status of these two names.

2. Latreille in 1809 (*Genera Crustaceorum et Insectorum*.... **4** : 376) provided the original description of the genus *Xyletinus* but included no species. In 1810 (*Considérations générales sur l'ordre naturel des animaux*....) on page 185 he again presented a description of the genus, and on page 428 he designated *Ptilinus laevis* Illiger as the type-species of *Xyletinus*; this species is now in the genus *Lasioderma*. Leach (1815, p. 93, *in* Brewster, the *Edinburgh Encyclopaedia*, 9 (1)) followed Latreille in including only *X. laevis* in *Xyletinus*. After Latreille's 1810 designation of the type-species, Stephens in 1829 (*A Systematic Catalogue of British Insects* : 139) was the first to place additional species in *Xyletinus* (misspelled as *Xiletinus*) when he included *ater* Cruetzer and *striatus* Stephens; the latter is now regarded as a synonym of *ater*. Our present concept of the genus *Xyletinus* is derived from Stephens' action.

3. Westwood (1839, *An Introduction to the modern classification of Insects* **2** : 29) designated *Ptilinus pectinatus* Fab. as the type of *Xyletinus*. This designation is invalid, however, because *pectinatus* was not among the first species placed in *Xyletinus*. Thomson (1859, *Skandinaviens Coleoptera* **1** : 89) designated *X. ater* as the type of *Xyletinus*; this is an invalid designation for the same reason as the preceding.

4. Stephens (1835, *Illustrations of British Entomology*, **5** : 417) described the genus *Lasioderma* and placed the single species *testaceum* Duftschmid in it, making the latter the type-species by monotypy. *L. testaceum* is now ranked as a synonym of *L. serricorne* (Fab.).

5. Therefore, under the rules of priority, *Lasioderma*, a world-wide genus of over 50 species, is a junior synonym of *Xyletinus* and all species now placed in *Lasioderma* must have their names changed to *Xyletinus*. Also, the nearly 100 world-wide species of *Xyletinus* must take the name *Calypterus* Mulsant and Godart (1859, *Opuscules Entomol.*, **9** : 181).

6. Due to the economic importance of the cigarette beetle, *Lasioderma serricorne* (Fab.), it would result in great confusion to change its generic name to *Xyletinus*. An indication of the economic significance of this species is shown by the fact that in the Index to the Literature of American Economic Entomology for the years 1945 to and including 1955, a total of 60 references are given for this species.

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7. As an adjunct to this situation, the generic name *Serrocerus* Kugelann (*in* Schneider, 1792, *Neuestes Magazine für die Liebhaber der Entomologie*, **1** (5) : 486) as treated in the Junk List (1912, pars. 48, p. 47) would appear to play a role in the synonymy of *Xyletinus*. However, both species originally included in *Serrocerus* (*S. glaber* Kug., and *S. striatus* Kug.) are now synonyms of *Dorcatoma dresdensis* Herbst; so *Serrocerus* is a synonym of *Dorcatoma*, not *Xyletinus*.

8. The Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is hereby asked to take the following actions:

(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Xyletinus* Latreille, 1809 and having done so to designate *Ptilinus ater* the type-species of that genus;

(2) to place the following generic name on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

Xyletinus Latreille, 1809, p. 376 (gender: masculine) type-species designated under the plenary powers, *Ptilinus ater* Cruetzer, 1796;

(3) to place the following specific name on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

ater Cruetzer, 1796, as published in the binomen *Ptilinus ater* (type-species of *Xyletinus* Latreille, 1809).